AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended)   A computer-implemented method for managing risk related to a legal action involving a person, the method comprising:

receiving, into a computer memory, information identifying a person's status as at least one of a party to a legal action and an amicus curiae of the court in a pending legal action;

receiving, into the computer memory, information relating to a plurality of risk assessment factors associated with the legal action, wherein the risk assessment factors are selected from a group consisting of: a likelihood of prolonged litigation, damages, punitive damages, and damaged public opinion;

assigning a numerical value to each of the plurality of risk assessment factors, wherein the numerical value is indicative of a legal risk of each risk assessment factor relative to the other plurality of risk assessment factors;

assigning a weight to each of the plurality of risk assessment factors;

calculating a plurality of risk factor values by multiplying the numerical value and the weight assigned to each of the plurality of risk assessment factors ;

calculating a risk quotient for the legal action by summing the plurality of risk factor values; and

in response to the calculated risk quotient, generating a suggested action associated with the legal action.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising generating a report including the suggested action.

3-5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1,wherein the suggested action is directed towards reducing a risk related to the legal action.

7. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1 wherein the suggested action comprises commencing a litigation.

8. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1 wherein the suggested action comprises entering arbitration.

9. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein the suggested action comprises settling a legal action.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of risk assessment factors is associated with a venue for the legal action.

12. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein the received information relating to the plurality of risk assessment factors is gathered electronically.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising aggregating a plurality of risk quotient values relating to the person and determining an aggregate level of risk related to multiple legal actions to which the person is a party.

14. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 13, further comprising calculating an average numeric value value associated with the person.

15. (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the legal action comprises a class action suit.

16. (Currently Amended)   A computerized system for managing risk associated with a legal action, the system comprising:

a computer server accessible by a network access device via a communications network; and

executable software stored on the server and when executed operative with the server to cause the system to:

receive information identifying a person as at least one of a party to a legal action and an amicus curiae of the court;

receive information relating to a plurality of risk assessment factors associated with the legal action, wherein the risk assessment factors are selected from a group consisting of: a likelihood of prolonged litigation, damages, punitive damages, and damaged public opinion;

assign a numerical value to each of the plurality of risk assessment factors, wherein the numerical value is indicative of a legal risk of each risk assessment factor relative to the other plurality of risk assessment factors;

assign a weight to each of the plurality of risk assessment factors;

calculate a plurality of risk factor values by multiplying the numerical value and the weight assigned to each of the plurality of risk assessment factors;

calculate a risk quotient for the legal action by summing the plurality of risk factor values; and

generate, in response to the calculated risk quotient, a suggested action associated with the legal action.

17. (Previously Presented) The computerized system of claim 16 wherein the information relating to the plurality of risk assessment factors is received via an electronic feed.

18. (Original) The computerized system of claim 16 wherein the network access device is a personal computer.

19. (Original) The computerized system of claim 16 wherein the network access device is a wireless handheld device.

20. (Previously Presented) Computer executable program code residing on a computer-readable medium, the program code comprising instructions for causing a computer to:

receive information identifying a person as at least one of a party to a legal action and an amicus curiae of the court;

receive information relating to details of a plurality of risk assessment factors associated with the legal action, wherein the risk assessment factors are selected from a group consisting of: a likelihood of prolonged litigation, damages, punitive damages, and damaged public opinion;

assign a numerical value to each of the plurality of risk assessment factors, wherein the numerical value is indicative of a legal risk of each risk assessment factor relative to the other plurality of risk assessment factors;

assign a weight to each of the plurality of risk assessment factors;

calculate a plurality of risk factor values by multiplying the numerical value and the weight assigned to each of the plurality of risk assessment factors; ;

calculate a risk quotient for the legal action by summing the plurality of risk factor values;and

generate, in response to the calculated risk quotient, a suggested action associated with the legal action.

21-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein a person involved in a legal action comprises at least one of a legal person or natural person, or a combination of both.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein a legal person further comprises a governmental entity.

26. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1 wherein the suggested action comprises appearing as an amicus curiae of the court in a litigation.

27. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1 wherein the risk comprises legal, regulatory, financial and reputational exposure.